gold, 3.0% nickel, and 0.6% titanium. Some trace elements may be present with a corresponding slight adjustment in the composition percentages. The braze is chosen so that it can stand up to the electrochemical conditions inside the battery with which it will come in contact. The ceramic ring (21) is of aluminum oxide, zirconium oxide, or zirconium oxide with 3% yttrium.

On Page 2, the paragraph beginning at line 20, please substitute the following paragraph:

Returning to Figure 1, the ceramic ring sandwich (20) is placed on the open end of the titanium alloy cylinder (2) with the titanium alloy ring (22) toward the cylinder (2). The titanium alloy ring (22) is then laser welded to the titanium alloy cylinder (2). Subsequently, a titanium end cap (4) with a feedthrough hole (5) is laser welded to the titanium ring (23) of the ceramic ring sandwich (20).

On Page 3, the paragraph beginning at line 4, please substitute the following paragraph:

The titanium alloy (Ti-6Al-4V) cylinder (2) has the desirable properties of titanium, such as high strength for a relatively low weight; and the case has the requisite ability and electro-activity to be used as a positive current carrying element where a battery's positive electrode exhibits more than 3.5 V vs. ~~Li/Li$^+$~~.

On Page 3, the paragraph beginning at line 8, please substitute the following paragraph:

Typically, once the ceramic sandwich (20) is welded to the cylinder (2), the battery electrodes (not shown) can be inserted into the cylinder (2) and the feedthrough pin (not shown) inserted through the hole (5) in the lid end cap (4). The feedthrough pin (not shown) is welded shut to provide a leak-tight seal. The battery (1) is filled with electrolyte (not shown) and laser welded closed on the bottom end cap (3). Tabs (not shown), which are connected to the positive electrode (not shown), can be folded out of the case and laser welded at the same time as the bottom end cap (3).

In the drawings:

Please substitute enclosed formal drawing Figures 1 and 2.